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773.5-MSP/5-556

# FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : American Embassy, Tripoli

374
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

May 5, 1956
DATE

REF :

| For Dept. Use Only | ACTION: NEA-4 FAA-10 | DEPT. |
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| | REC'D 5-7 | INFO OTHER S/S-6 S/MR-10 AC-8 OSD-4 ARMY-4 NAVY-3 AIR-3 TA-3 |

SUBJECT: Relief Wheat

This Document Must Be Returned to RM/R Central Files

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JOINT EMBASSY-USOM/L MESSAGE

There is attached for the information of the Department and ICA copy of an exchange of notes regarding the last 5,000 tons of wheat contributed by the United States to Libya.

John L. Tappin
American Ambassador

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY G.M.Razi DATE May 6,1982
FBI(NSC) NSA DEPT. DATE
TO ARMY
ENERGY
DIA
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cc: Benghazi
USOM/L

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ACTION COPY — DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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American Embassy
Tripoli, March 15, 1956.

Excellency:

With reference to Your Excellency's Note of January 14, 1956 and to my reply thereto dated January 23, 1956 regarding your Government's request for 13,189 tons of relief wheat for the balance of this crop year, I now have the honor to inform Your Excellency that my Government will make available an additional 5,000 tons of relief wheat. This, together with the 7,200 tons previously approved, makes a total of 12,200 additional tons of wheat to be shipped to Libya at the earliest possible date. Inasmuch as 12,800 tons already have been furnished, these additional shipments will bring the grand total to 25,000 tons during the current U. S. fiscal year.

It will be noted that the additional amount of 12,200 tons is 898 tons less than requested in Your Excellency's note of January 14, 1956. The reduction was made following informal consultations between the Director, USOM, and the Minister of National Economy, during which it was explained that special procedures would be required to exceed the 25,000 figure for the fiscal year and it was agreed that this small reduction would not seriously jeopardize the wheat distribution program.

The U. S. Government is experiencing very great difficulty obtaining shipping space for the additional wheat approved for Libya. Intensive efforts have been made since January and the earliest shipment scheduled thus far is for April 4 departure from the U. S. The Director, USOM/Libya, is in constant touch with the Minister of National Economy and with Sir Arthur Dean as well as with appropriate offices in Washington and we are hopeful that some solution will be worked out for this emergency in the very near future.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

MJGordon/CBarnes:lva

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United Kingdom of Libya
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tripoli, April 30, 1956
No. 2212/12/7

Your Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to the letter I have received from your Embassy's Counselor, Mr. David Nes, dated last March 15, whereby he informed me that, desiring to help in the reduction of the shortage of foodstuffs from which Libya is suffering because of successive years of drought, the U. S. Government has decided to put at the Libyan Government's disposal a further quantity of wheat of about 5000 tons.

On this occasion I wish to forward to Your Excellency my sincere thanks for your care in contacting the U. S. Government to get this additional quantity of wheat for Libya. I will appreciate if Your Excellency will convey the Libyan Government's thanks and full appreciation to the Government of the United States of America for its help in the reduction of food crisis in Libya.

Please accept, Your Excellency, my best regards.

Mustafa Ben Halim
Prime Minister and Minister
of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency
Honorable John L. Tappin,
U. S. Ambassador in Libya,
Tripoli.

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